

From the Editor

This special edition of *Military Review* is dedicated to General Dennis J. Reimer, the US Army's 33d chief of staff (CSA). Hailed as the "Steward of Change," CSA Reimer personally touched every aspect of the profession of arms—from leadership doctrine and Army Values to Force XXI operations and the Army After Next. A soldier's soldier, he was the catalyst behind Army force digitization and modernization. From the depths of the jungles in Vietnam to a remote observation post overlooking the demilitarized zone in Korea, or from the halls of Congress to the frozen banks of the Sava River, he didn't tell us how to do it—he showed us. From his first day in office, he "led from the front" showing soldiers, Department of the Army civilians and their families that he "gave a damn!" In a world long on talk and short on action, he "walked the talk," always leading by example.

A firm believer in empowerment, General Reimer encouraged each and every Army leader to "Be All You Can Be" while driving home the importance of Army values and consideration of others. Steadfast and always looking forward, he built an army of unsurpassed professionalism, discipline and technological skill. He made training the Army's top priority and challenged us to institutionalize our training principles and forge future leaders that would assure the Army's enduring legacy of competent, confident and highly trained soldiers. Despite the specter of drawdown and declining defense budgets, he never let us lose sight of the fact that our Army's sole purpose is to fight and win the nation's wars.

When our only constants seemed to be change, turbulence and high OPTEMPO, General Reimer asked us to dig deep, work smart and never forget that "Soldiers are our Credentials." By showing us how to "build predictability" into our training schedules and combat training center rotations, he transformed a drawdown army into the finest fighting force on earth—one soldier at a time. And whether it was telling the Army story to the media and Congress or observing the Brigade Strike Force at the National Training Center, he ensured America's Army was trained to succeed across the full spectrum of military operations as a capabilities-based force—a force that was constantly put to the test in Haiti, Korea, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Southwest Asia, just to name a few.

CSA Reimer's vision, direction, stewardship and passion for soldiering transformed an already top-notch force into the world's best army, trained and ready for victory. America's Army *is* a total force of quality soldiers and civilians; a values-based organization; and an integral part of the joint team, equipped with the most modern weapons and equipment the country can provide—an army able to respond to our nation's needs and meet the challenge of change today, tomorrow and in the 21st century.

The legacy General Reimer leaves is quality soldiers, dynamic leaders, innovative doctrine, realistic training and modern equipment—in short, a land force without equal. In a world undergoing unprecedented and accelerating change, he has given us a strategic, highly capable force designed to shape the international environment by building regional stability and reducing the possibility of conflict. As we pause to capture brief snapshots of General Reimer's tenure as Army Chief of Staff, *Military Review* proudly salutes one of our nation's greatest leaders. On behalf of our readership, Sir, thanks for a job well done.

*Lieutenant Colonel Michael I. Roddin
Acting Editor in Chief*